

PHYLLIS STADTLANDER—WAUKEE, IA

Please use my tax dollars to preserve the National Guard. It is a safety net for the safety for my family. Thank you very much for your work on our behalf.

MIKE VANDELUNE—URBANDALE, IA

The military needs to be treated as a business. You have a workforce (active duty) for your basic manufacturing or business needs. Then when you have a unexpected need, you bring on the part-time (National Guard) workforce. The last thing you want is to not have what you need for a workforce when there is an emergency.

JIM MAYLAND—BUFFALO CENTER, IA

I am commander of the local VFW Post. I have seen some waste in the military and I think that is where the cuts should come not in reducing the National Guard.

ROSS KUPER—OSAGE, IA

Do not make cuts to the military in any way shape. They need to have the best care provided to the service person and their families. We need the best military in the world.

RANDY MARTIN—ROCKWELL CITY, IA

I do not want to see the country go back to the era where our military was cut so low that we were open to terrorist attacks. Remind them of 911.

ANNA FREMONT—CEDAR FALLS, IA

Besides we all know we will need the guard in active duty when all this snow melts and we are flooded again. Then what?

DIANE SIEBEL—CEDAR FALLS, IA

Absolutely not!

KATHY DOYLE—CEDAR FALLS, IA

My husband is active duty National Guard/Army. He would lose his position and now he's currently at the Arizona border patrol as a pilot. If we lose that we lose our careers our income and insurance and that would mean that the unemployment rate will go sky high. I am totally against this and not happy about it either.

RALPH PRUNTY—CEDAR FALLS, IA

Redefine and reduce the scope of the NSC and Keep the National Guard.

CARL MEYER—CEDAR FALLS, IA

The National Guard is not only capable of being deployed to places like Afghanistan but also is used for all kinds of national disasters. The Guard numbers are right where we need them.

ROBERT YUSKA—HUDSON, IA

They protect our state in disasters as well as protecting our nation in emergencies.

DEBRA NOESEN—INDEPENDENCE, IA

I'm sick & tired of hearing about cuts to our military when the cuts should be made in our Congress & Senate, that's where the waste is. By the time Congress gets done with this, we will have no security in this country. I served in the US Women's Army Corp and am still extremely proud of my service but I'm fed up with the way the military and veterans are treated in this country.

DAN CALLAHAN—INDEPENDENCE, IA

Our aviation assets are better than the Army's. Our soldiers bring a wealth of experience from their civilian jobs that make our units far more flexible than active units. Paying so much for weapons systems that don't work and being unable to retain and train our soldiers is silly. Active duty generals and lobbyists are frightened by how effective our Guard units are at a much lower cost than a similar active unit. They worry about protecting their jobs, not the effectiveness of the fighting force.

TED LANSKE—WAVERLY, IA

The last time we had troop cuts this low was right after WWII and for the same rea-

son. Guess what, Korean conflict came along. We are about to make the same stupid political mistake and history will repeat itself. Drones cannot fight hill to hill, valley to valley, nor door to door.

KATHLEEN SCHUHMACHER—WAVERLY, IA

We are weakening our defense system in the United States. Please do what you can to maintain (at least) what we already have in place.

JOSEPH SEITZ—WATERLOO, IA

As you say, they could make cuts to military weapon development and to cut waste. It's nice that the Secretary of Defense wants to make cuts but maybe the cuts need to be toward that first before reducing our National Guard.

CHIP WOOD—WATERLOO, IA

Much more savings achieved cutting regular forces.

ANGIE GILBERT—WATERLOO, IA

My husband is in the Iowa National Guard and was deployed to Afghanistan in 2010. He works very hard to do a great job at any task he is appointed to and is always ready to do whatever he is asked to serve our state and our country. These men and women do a great service and deserve great respect. I believe budget cuts could be made elsewhere.

BRENDA DOUGLASS—WATERLOO, IA

My son is a member of the Iowa National Guard. He takes his job as an Army National Guard soldier very seriously and has great pride in being ready to serve his country when needed.

NANCY STIRM—WATERLOO, IA

Our National Guard does so much more than protect our country. Let's keep them available to all needs of the state and country.

CINDY BENGSTON—WATERLOO, IA

Thank you Rep. Braley!

SANDIE DEAHL—WATERLOO, IA

I believe funding within the Iowa National Guard should be redistributed. Outdated or mostly vacant posts should be closed or sold. Funding previously spent on maintenance should be used for recruitment/training of recruits. Please give Tim Orr a call, he represents the National Guard well and has quite a few good ideas about future direction(s) of the guard.

TIONA JOHNSTON—WATERLOO, IA

I do not believe that we should cut any of our military. My oldest son is in the Reserves. I also believe that someone should be FIGHTING for our Veterans' rights.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ST. PAUL, ST. CLARE CRUSADERS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the St. Paul, St. Clare Crusaders 8th Grade Boys' Basketball Team, who ended a great season Friday, March 28, 2014. For the seventh year in a row, the Crusaders went undefeated as champions of the Luzerne, Lackawanna League and went on to compete in the Pennsylvania CYO Championship at Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia, where they faced the best teams that the state's eight Dioceses had to offer. Under the leadership of Mike Brown, and assistant coaches

John Murray, Patrick Sweeney, and Jamie Dempsey, the team of 20 ranked 6th in the entire state with an overall 36-2 record.

It is with great pride that I honor the team and the coaching staff of St. Paul, St. Clare. The sportsmanship, athleticism, and teamwork that these young people displayed on the court brought their community together. I congratulate the Crusaders on their hard work and success, and I thank them for inspiring us all.

COMMEMORATING PATRICIA "PATTY" LYONS

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Patricia "Patty" Lyons. Patty passed away on March 26, 2014 after a long courageous and hard fought battle with cancer.

Patty was a dedicated nurse in Bucks County for 35 years. It has been said of nurses, that with each patient and family they work with over the years, they give a little piece of themselves and each of those threads, make up the beautiful tapestry that is the career of nursing. Patty's career and life was indeed a beautiful tapestry. She dedicated her life to improving the care of older Americans particularly those in home care and hospice. She established and operated Bucks County Special Care for 28 years. Patty worked tirelessly advocating for legislation requiring non-medical home cares to be licensed and direct care workers to pass criminal background checks, which ultimately became law.

Patty was very generous with her time and dedicated hours of service to numerous boards, community organizations and commissions including the Long Term Care Advisory Panel serving the 8th Congressional District. I had the honor and pleasure of knowing Patty. She left a lasting impression on those she touched and she will be dearly missed and fondly remembered.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL WILLIAM N. PHILLIPS

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lieutenant General William N. Phillips, United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and selfless service to our nation as the Military Deputy Director to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. Lieutenant General Phillips will retire after 38 dedicated years and exceptional service to this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, let me be the first to say that there is no mission too great for this incredible individual. Bill's tremendous vision, leadership, and dedication to excellence has ensured our beloved Soldiers fighting on behalf of the Nation have always had and will continue to have well into the future, the most technologically advanced and reliable equipment whenever

and wherever they need it most. A true champion for Soldier's and their Families, his efforts have proven to be exponential and his example unwavering.

Lieutenant General Phillips earned his commission as a Field Artillery Officer in the United States Army from Middle Tennessee State University and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant on the first of July, 1976. Excelling in a multitude of positions spanning from Army aviator to defense procurement and contracting expert, Lieutenant General Phillips has performed at an elite level in business, academia, and combat. He humbly served with great pride as a warrior and scholar.

Lieutenant General Phillips' assignments have been some of the most challenging and diverse his profession has to offer. He served impeccably in positions to include but not limited to: the Commanding General, Joint Contracting Command-Iraq/Afghanistan in Baghdad, Iraq, the Commanding General of Picatinny Arsenal in the great State of New Jersey, as well as the Program Executive Officer for Army Ammunition, and the Deputy Program Executive Officer for Army Aviation.

Mr. Speaker it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Lieutenant General William "Bill" N. Phillips as he proceeds into the next chapter of his life. Bill is leaving a legacy that will be remembered for the years to come. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Lieutenant General William N. Phillips for almost four decades of tremendous Service to his Country in the United States Army. I wish Bill and his loving and dedicated wife Marilyn Phillips, the very best as they begin their new journey that is sure to be filled with continued success and adventure.

SAVE AMERICAN WORKERS ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to H.R. 2575, the Save American Workers Act. This bill is not only our 52nd repeal vote and another effort to undermine the Affordable Care Act, it actually worsens the problem it purports to fix.

Raising the threshold for full-time employees from 30 hours per week to 40 hours will result in lost work hours for 6.5 million people and essentially eviscerate the employer responsibility requirement.

According to the Congressional Budget Office and Joint Committee on Taxation, H.R. 2575 will cause a million people to lose their employer-based health insurance coverage, increase the number of uninsured Americans by 500,000, and add \$74 billion to the deficit over 10 years.

This bill will make a shift towards part-time employment much more likely, not less so.

I urge my colleagues to protect American workers and vote against H.R. 2575.

HONORING CAPTAIN MARK E.
CEDRUN

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Captain Mark E. Cedrun as he retires from the United States Navy after 31 remarkable years of service.

In 1979 as a young constituent of California's 24th Congressional District, then high school senior Mark Cedrun came to me seeking a nomination to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. I was thoroughly impressed with Mark's intellect, maturity, and enthusiasm. He stood out among an extremely competitive candidate pool. I was delighted to grant Mark the nomination. At that time, Mark was accepted to the United States Military Academy Preparatory School in Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey. After one year, I was honored to once again nominate Mark for the Naval Academy in Annapolis where he was ultimately commissioned as an ensign in 1984.

Mark went on to have an exemplary naval career, serving multiple sea assignments. He was deployed to the Arabian Gulf in early 2003 in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom and most recently served as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Commander, Naval Surface Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Throughout his long career Mark has received numerous awards, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

I am honored to have played a small part in such an impressive and honorable naval career. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the remarkable accomplishments of Captain Mark Cedrun and wishing him all the best for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ALEX G. SPANOS HEART AND VASCULAR CENTER AT MERCY GENERAL HOSPITAL

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the opening of the Alex G. Spanos Heart and Vascular Center at Mercy General Hospital in Sacramento. The Alex G. Spanos Heart and Vascular Center builds upon the foundation of excellence that has made Mercy General Hospital a proven leader in cardiovascular care. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mercy Hospital's Alex G. Spanos Heart and Vascular Center and all who have made the Center a reality, as they commemorate this important milestone.

Mercy General Hospital is home to the highest-volume heart surgery program in California, and the Alex G. Spanos Heart and Vascular Center was created to help meet the needs of those with cardiovascular diseases. This center will grant patients access to a state-of-the-art diagnostic cardiopulmonary

care area, a cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation center, and four cardiac surgery operating rooms, including an innovative hybrid operating room. The new facility will be of great value to the entire Northern California region, with its cutting edge technology and highly advanced procedures.

With the renovations and additions, the Center will now allow for more rooms to be available for both scheduled and emergency cardiovascular procedures. This allows patients to have access to world class technology, and an integrated care model, creating greater efficiencies and a continuum of care. I am confident that the Center's impact will be felt across California and not just in Sacramento.

Mr. Speaker, as the Spanos family, who made this Center possible, Mercy General staff and community supporters gather for the blessing of this building, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them the best of luck moving forward.

RECOGNIZING PARKLAND HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SYSTEM'S STROKE PROGRAM

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Parkland Health and Hospital System's stroke program. Parkland recently received the Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold-Plus Achievement Award and the Target: Stroke Honor Roll for its implementation of quality improvements laid out by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

Parkland is Dallas County's public hospital and serves as one of the area's three Level 1 Trauma Centers and the primary care center for the county. Parkland is also one of the largest providers of uncompensated care in Texas. However, Parkland's dedication to community health programs remains unwavering.

Parkland's commitment to improving stroke care means that patients receive personalized care based on clinical guidelines. The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association note that hospitals that follow the Get With The Guidelines-Stroke see a reduction in length of stay and readmission rates for stroke patients, ultimately reducing disparity gaps in care.

Landing on the Target: Stroke Honor Roll demonstrates Parkland's commitment to reducing the time between hospital arrival and treatment. People who suffer a stroke and receive the clot-buster tPA, the only approved drug to treat ischemic stroke, within three hours may recover more quickly and are less likely to suffer from a stroke-related disability.

Parkland Health and Hospital System has worked diligently to implement guidelines from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 40 seconds. I encourage hospitals nationwide to use these internationally respected clinical guidelines. It is imperative that we use the medications and risk-reduction therapies aimed at the reduction of death and disability in stroke patients. I urge